

In the Claims

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) A welding device comprising:

a suitcase housing having a shape to compactly enclose enlosing a power source constructed to supply a welding power, the suitcase housing including a pair of connected side shells having equal outer perimeters and being hinged together to enclose the power source;

an adapter fluidly connected to a torch of the welding device without a manually adjusted valve therebetween;

a gas cylinder attached to the housing and constructed to provide a shielding gas, the gas cylinder having a length that is less than a length of a side of the housing; and

wherein the gas cylinder is automatically fluidly connected to the torch by translating the gas cylinder along a longitudinal axis of the gas cylinder and into contact with the adapter.

40. (Previously Presented) The welding device of claim 39 further comprising a regulator attached to the gas cylinder and operable through an opening in the housing.

41. (Original) The welding device of claim 39 wherein the gas cylinder is disposable.

42. (Original) The welding device of claim 39 wherein the gas cylinder is refillable.

43. (Original) The welding device of claim 39 further comprising a shroud positioned in the housing and having a recess constructed to receive the gas cylinder therein.

44. (Original) The welding device of claim 43 further comprising a strap constructed to straddle the gas cylinder having a first end pivotably connected to the shroud and a second end removably connectable to the shroud.

45. (Currently Amended) The welding device of claim 43 wherein the shroud further comprises a second recess connected to the first recess and constructed to snuggly receive the adaptoradapter therein.

46. (Original) The welding device of claim 45 wherein the adapter has a threaded recess constructed to engage the gas cylinder and a nipple disposed within the recess.

47. (Previously Presented) The welding device of claim 46 wherein the nipple operably engages a valve integral to the gas cylinder as the gas cylinder is moved relative to the adapter.

48. (Original) The welding device of claim 45 further comprising a third recess connected to the second recess opposite the first recess and constructed to snuggly receive a regulator therein.

49. (Currently Amended) A method of providing shielding gas to a weld comprising:

initiating a welding arc; and

opening a shielding gas path to a gas system and providing shielding gas immediately upon connection of a gas source to a welding-type device;

wherein opening the shielding gas path includes:

positioning an adapter having a threaded recess therein adjacent to a threaded section on the gas source;

rotating the gas source to engage the threaded section of the gas source with the threaded recess; and

wherein the engaging of the threaded section with the threaded recess causes a nipple positioned on the adapter to actuate a valve positioned on the gas source and provide a flow of the shielding gas.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising closing the gas source by separating the gas source and the welding-type device.

51. (Currently Amended) A welding-type device comprising:

means for generating a welding power;
means for providing shielding gas to a weld; and
means for fluidly connecting the means for providing shielding gas and the means for generating welding power upon connection of the means for providing shielding gas and the means for generating welding power; and

a suitcase enclosure to compactly enclose the means for generating a welding power and the means for providing shielding gas, the suitcase enclosure including a pair of connected side shells having equal outer perimeters and being hinged together.

52. (Original) The welding-type device of claim 51 further comprising enclosing the means for generating a welding power and the means for providing shielding gas in an enclosure.

53. (Previously Presented) A welding device comprising:
a housing enclosing a power source constructed to supply a welding power;
a gas cylinder attached to the housing and constructed to provide a shielding gas, wherein the gas cylinder has a length that is less than a length of a side of the housing and the gas cylinder is fluidly connected to the welding device by translating the gas cylinder along a longitudinal axis of the gas cylinder;
a shroud positioned in the housing and having a recess constructed to receive the gas cylinder therein; and
wherein the shroud further comprises a second recess connected to the first recess and constructed to snuggly receive an adapter body therein.

54. (Previously Presented) The welding device of claim 53 wherein the adapter body has a threaded recess constructed to engage the gas cylinder and a nipple disposed within the recess.

55. (Previously Presented) The welding device of claim 54 wherein the nipple operably engages a valve integral to the gas cylinder as the gas cylinder is moved relative to the adapter.

56. (Previously Presented) The welding device of claim 53 further comprising a third recess connected to the second recess opposite the first recess and constructed to snugly receive a regulator therein.